

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791



May 20, 2004

Dear Advisory Committee Members:

As the new Director of the Department of Water Resources (DWR), I want to express my appreciation for your extraordinary effort and contributions to the California Water Plan since January 2001. The many hours you have dedicated to meetings, workshops, and text review is helping DWR renew the Water Plan Update process such that the Plan will continue to be a focal point for California water policy.

The Water Plan is becoming a strategic planning document that better reflects the role of the State and the growing role of regionally-based integrated resource planning in managing California's water. The Advisory Committee has been instrumental in DWR's efforts to develop a new analytical framework to quantify and evaluate future supplies, demands and responses under a variety of future scenarios. You have also had significant input in developing the key themes of the next Water Plan, namely: (1) the central role of California's regions in water planning and project implementation; (2) the evolving role of State Government; (3) diversifying regional strategies for water management; (4) rehabilitating aging water infrastructure; and 5) improving data and analytical tools to reduce uncertainty and risk.

Finally, I want to thank you for your patience during the transition of administrations. DWR extended the production schedule to accommodate this transition, as well as to incorporate public comments and make needed editorial changes. As the redrafted portions of the Water Plan are completed over the coming weeks and months, DWR will again seek input from the Advisory Committee. While DWR will fulfill its responsibilities to make the management decisions necessary to complete the Water Plan, our goal is to be responsive to your thoughtful deliberations. Under this framework, DWR intends to engage the Advisory Committee over the remainder of 2004 to refine the key themes and recommendations towards completing an action-oriented Water Plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester A. Snow", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lester A. Snow
Director